

A method for the writing and erasing of a non-volatile memory area, in which after error-free writing of the memory area, at least one release pattern is written into a predetermined subarea of the memory area. To be able to reliably ascertain aborted erase operations, prior to the erase operation, invalidity patterns are written into two further subareas of the memory area, the subareas provided for this enclosing those subareas reserved for the release patterns. The presence (in part) of invalidity patterns indicates an erase operation not ended correctly. The method can be used advantageously in controllers having non-volatile memories.

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